



To The Virginia Supreme Court:

On behalf of the Virginia House of Delegates Democratic Caucus, we are submitting two maps for the Court's consideration.

We urge the Court to adopt a House of Delegates map that reflects as many of the regional highlights as possible contained in our first map (Map 1). Map 1 reflects a balanced and fair approach. It was developed before the Court released the Special Masters' map and represents our model plan drafted in accordance with all applicable federal and state constitutional and statutory requirements. It properly reflects the population and demographic changes resulting from the 2020 federal decennial census and does so in a way that is least disruptive, by following the generally accepted redistricting principle that recognizes as a legitimate criteria not making unnecessary changes to current districts where it is possible.

The changes in the Commonwealth's ethnic and racial demographics are also reflected in Map 1. Importantly, the map provides racial and minority group members with the opportunity to elect their preferred candidates of choice. Districts are all contiguous and compact without splitting precincts. Further, the plan provides partisan balance and does not unduly favor either major political party.

Key highlights of Map 1 include:

**Northern Virginia:**

- Creating more geographically compact districts, eliminates winding, reaching districts
- Limiting the number of districts that cross county lines
- Preserving communities of interest, using Homeowners Association boundaries in places where there are no incorporated cities
- Splitting Arlington into fewer districts and keeping two districts entirely in the county. It follows the Route 50 dividing line that has been used for years in Arlington and by regional governments. Communities north of Route 50 are included in North Arlington and everything south is in South Arlington. The map keeps the neighborhoods north and south of Columbia Pike together in the natural Columbia Pike corridor community of interest.
- Giving Alexandria one district entirely within the locality with only one other district taking up the remaining precincts, allowing its communities to stay together.
- Prince William County has fewer districts that reach outside the county, keeping 6 of 7 districts entirely within county lines and keeping the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park whole

**Richmond:**

- Eliminating the partisan gerrymandering in western Henrico County and creating more compact districts there, while keeping eastern Henrico communities of interest together
- Keeping Petersburg with suburban Chesterfield County, not with more rural Dinwiddie County
- Limiting the number of districts Richmond is cut into

**Hampton Roads:**

- Providing more compact districts in the Peninsula, keeping Williamsburg with historical communities in James City County, Jamestown and the unincorporated community of Grove
- Newport News is condensed primarily into two districts with the northern precincts being included with the community of Grove where they make up a community of interest
- Norfolk has two districts entirely within the city limits
- Virginia Beach has 4 of its 6 districts entirely within city limits, rather than having multiple districts cross over city limits and keeps the regions of the city together

**Southside/Southwest:**

- Drawing together the southside cities of Danville and Martinsville, as they are likely to have similar interests and issues
- Keeping the cities of Blacksburg and Radford together as a community of interest because of the two colleges there (Virginia Tech and Radford College).

All districts were drawn using 2020 federal decennial population data adjusted for prisoner reallocation as required by state law.

Should the Court not be inclined to adopt the suggestions contained in Map 1, we hope that it will, at minimum, take up the changes we suggest in Map 2, which is adapted from the Special Masters' map.

Map 2 suggests several modifications to the draft map that would be less disruptive to voters who know and understand their districts. This map also provides for competitive districts. This plan keeps the cores of several current districts intact and attempts to avoid any unnecessary shifts in certain precincts to other districts. The map also follows the generally accepted redistricting principle that recognizes as a legitimate criteria not making unnecessary changes to current districts where it is possible. Since this map works from the Special Masters' plan, we ask the Court to incorporate as many of these changes as possible in its final plan. These changes would not be difficult to make.

Key features in Map 2 include:

- **HD 10/11:** Moving the Sideburn precinct from HD 10 to HD 11 to keep the George Mason University area together, and balancing population deviation by moving the Villa precinct from HD 11 to HD 10.
- **HD 14/15:** Moving the Wakefield precinct from HD 15 to HD 14, to keep it with the rest of the Annandale community.
- **HD 19/25:** Moving the Cardinal precinct and Fitzgerald precinct from HD 25 to HD 19 to keep the Cardinal Drive community together.
- **HD 78/79:** The Ginter Park neighborhood has been split between proposed districts 78 and 79, as has the historic Jackson Ward neighborhood. Moving precinct 213 from 79 to 78 and moving precincts 307 and 308 from 78 to 79 would allow these communities to remain intact.

We are attaching supporting data charts for each map and shape files can be found at this link: [VA House Democrats Maps](#). We thank the Court for considering these submissions as it prepares its final maps.

Sincerely yours,

Eileen Filler-Corn  
Speaker  
House of Delegates

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